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Message Text

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21
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /014 W
---------- 036396
R 120812Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3237
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC,TC
SUBJECT: NOMINATIONS FOR BY 76 IV GRANTS
FOR CU/NEA
USIA FOR INA

REF: (A) DEPT A-4759 (B) USIA ABU DHABI FIELD MESSAGE NO. 2
1. EMBASSY SUBMITS FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS, WITH ALTERNATES, FOR FY 1976 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM. WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, EMBASSY HAS FOLLOWED PROPOSALS MADE IN COUNTRY PROGRAM PLAN (REF B) WHICH IN TURN WERE GENERALLY ENDORSED BY DEPT (REF A9?. WHERE CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE, REASONS FOR DOING SO HAVE BEEN INDICATED.
2. MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT NOMINATIONS. NOMINATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED IN ALL OF FOLLOWING CASES. FIRST TWO WERE PROJECTS CONTAINED IN COUNTRY PLAN. LATTER TWO ARE IN EFFECT TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY--MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECTS WHICH APPEARED PARTICULARLY SUITED TO NEEDS OF AND KEY INDIVIDUALS IN UAE:
A) MULTI-REGIONAL JOURNALISM PROJECT
B) MULTI-REGIONAL TEEVISIT
PROJECT
C) MULTI-REGIONAL URBAN GROWTH AND LAND USE PROJECT
D) MULTI-REGIONAL ENERGY AND ECONOMICS PROJECT
3. IV GRANT NOMINATIONS.
A) ALREADY NOMINATED AND APPROVED AS PER COUNTRY PLAN--
KEMAL HAMZA, DIRECTOR OF DUBAI MUNICIPALITY (PARA E.1 REF B).
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B) ADDITIONAL NOMINEES AS PROJECTED COUNTRY PLAN:

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(I) H.E. SHAIKH SAIF BIN NUHAMMAD AL-NAHYAN, MINISTER OF HEALTH, UAEG (VIP GRANT) (PARA D.1 REF B).

ALTERNATES: DR. SALAM MAHMOUD, UNDER SECRETARY, UAEG MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

DR. TAISEER BARAKAT, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, UAEG MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

NOTE: WHILE ALTERNATES ARE NOT MEMBERS OF UAE RULING FAMILY--PRIME FOCUS OF THIS PROPOSAL IN COUNTRY PLAN--THEY OBVIOUSLY SUPPORT SECONDARY FOCUS ON HEALTH. THIS HAS ASSUMED GREATER IMPORTANCE IN OUR PRIORITIES WITH CURRENT CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE USG REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO UAEG IN HEALTH FIELD.

(II) H.E. SHAIKH TAHNOUN BIN NUHAMMAD AL-NAHYAN, CHAIRMAN OF ABU DHABI NATIONAL OIL COMPANY, RULER'S REPRESENTATIVE IN AL-AIN PROVINCE OF ABU DHABI EMIRATE, AND DIRECTOR ABU DHABI EMIRATE DEPT OF AGRICULTURE (VIP GRANT) (PAR D.2 REF B).

ALTERNATE: SHAIKH SULTAN BIN SAQR AL-QASIMI, SECOND SON OF RULER OF RAS AL-KHAIMAH AND COMMANDER OF RAS AL-KHAIMAH MOBILE FORCE.

(III) SAYED HAMOUDA BIN ALI, MINISTER OF STATE, UAEG MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (PARA E.3 REF B).

ALTERNATE: KHALFAN KHAMIS, UNDER SECRETARY, UAEG MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

NOTE: WHILE COUNTRY PLAN LISTED KHAMIS AS PRIME TARGET, EMBASSY HAS SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED THAT MINSTATE INTERESTED IN GOING TO U.S. WITH BOTH INDIVIDUALS INFLUENTIAL AND HELPFUL TO US, BELIEVE FIRST OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SENIOR MAN.

(IV) SAEED AL-GAITH, MINISTER OF STATE, UAE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (PARA E.2 REF B).

ALTERNATE: ALI AL-SHURAFA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESIDENTIAL COURT AND MEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS UAE DEVELOPMENT BANK.

NOTE: COUNTRY PLAN INDICATED SHURAFA AS PRIME CANDIDATE. CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE IN PART BECAUSE OF GREATER UNCERTAINTY AS TO LIKELIHOOD OF SHURAFA BEING ABLE TO GET AWAY FOR THREE-WEEK PERIOD. GENERAL TARGET OF KEY (BUT NON-RULING FAMILY) UAEG OFFICIAL HAS BEEN RETAINED, HOWEVER. POST NOMINATED AL-GAITH IN SAME CATEGORY IN FY 75 NOTING AT THAT TIME HIS HELPFULNESS TO EMBASSY; HIS DIVERSIFIED TALENT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

INCLUDING PERIODIC SERVICE AS ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER; AND HIS SOMEWHAT UNIQUE STATUS HERE AS HARD WORKING, CONSCIENTIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE HE WOULD BE EXCELLENT CHOICE.

C) NEW CATEGORY IN LIEU OF PROPOSAL IN COUNTRY PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES OFFICIAL (PARA E.4 REF B). (NOTE: AGRICULTURE/FISHERIES REMAINS IMPORTANT AREA, BUT AT MOMENT WE LACK GOOD CANDIDATE.)

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(I) INFLUENTIAL BUSINESSMAN, WITH CONTACTS AND INTERESTS IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL. SUCH CANDIDATE WILL SUPPORT OUR IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL OBJECTIVES IN UAE, BUT WILL ALSO HAVE POLITICAL IMPACT IN VIEW IMPORTANCE OF BUSINESS COMMUNTIY IN THIS SOCIETY.

PRIMARY CANDIDATE: ABDULRAHMAN ABU KHATER, FROM NORTHERN EMIRATE OF SHARJAH, ONE OF THAT AREA'S MOST PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN. ALSO INVOLVED IN EMIRATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND GENERAL POLITICAL LIFE ASJ WELL. THIS CHOICE HAS ADVANTAGE OF BROADENING OUR FOCUS BEYOND DUBAI/ABU DHABI AREA WHICH TENDS MOMOPOLIZE UAE BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

ALTERNATES: FARAJ BIN HAMOUDAH, PROMINENT ABU DHABI BUSINESSMAN, ALSO MEMBER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. (POST NOMINATED HAMOUDAH AS PRIME CANDIATE FOR MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT IN FY 75. HE WAS UNABLEACCEPT, BUT EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE THAT HE MIGHT RECEIVE ANOTHER INVITIATION IN FUTURE.)

JUMA'A AL -MAJID--KEY DUBAI MERCHANT, LISTED AS AN ALTERNATE FOR IV GRANT IN FY 75.

4. EMBASKP BELIEVES POINT REF A RE ABSENCE OF CANDIDATE FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IN PROPOSALS CONTAINED REF B WAS WELL TAKEN, BUT WE WISH DEFER FINAL DECISION ON POSSIBLE NOMINATION IN THIS AREA UNTIL SUCH TIME AS CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT BY USIS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTER IN ABU DHABI HAVE REACHED CONCULSION. IF THEY SUCCESSFUL, WE WILL PROBABLY WISH KEY NOMINATION TO THAT PROJECT. ON OTHER HAND, IF PROJECT FALLS THROUGH, WE MAY WISH LOOK ELSEWHERE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT INDICATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ABOVE NOMINATIONS SO THAT WE MAY APPROACH CANDIDATES AND SEEK ESTABLISH THEIR AVAILABILITY. GIVEN SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME WE WOULD HOPE FOR HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF ACCEPTANCES THAN WAS POSSIBLE IN TIGHT FRAMWORK IN WHICH WE ALL PERFORCE OPERATED IN FY 75.

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